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# Our Commonwealth Education

# **Special Considerations**

# What are Special Considerations? 704 KAR 3:285 Section 4

- Exceptions and special considerations for eligibility. School personnel shall take into consideration environmental, cultural, and disabling conditions which may mask a child's true abilities that lead to exclusion of otherwise eligible students, such as a student who qualifies as:
  - (a) An exceptional child as defined in KRS 157.200;
  - (b) Disadvantaged; or
  - (c) Underachieving.



# Conditions which might mask gifted ability:

- Environmental
- Language
- Disadvantaged
  - Culturally
  - Economically
- Student with a Disability
- Underachieving
- Other factors





### Environmental



**Transiency** 



Home with little enrichment or stimulation



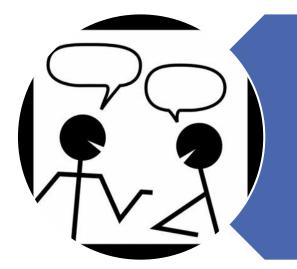
Parental attitude demonstrating rejection or indifference



## Language:



**English Learner** 



Lack of verbal intellectual stimulation due to limited language facility



# Disadvantaged

- Inability to function meaningfully in a dominant culture due to limited exposure
- Standards conflict with dominant culture involving peers, parents and community
- Lower self-esteem due to self comparison with dominate culture standards

Cultural



- Residence in depressed economic area with high concentration of poverty
- Low family income (free/reduced lunch)
- Large family living at sustenance level
- Inability to participate in varied experiences outside the home

**Economic** 





### Other factors



Medical issues impacting achievement



Other factors as described in formal recommendation



# An Exceptional Child as defined in KRS 157.200

- Orthopedic impairment
   severe impairment of
   bone or muscle
- Other health impairmentasthma, ADD, ADHD
- Speech or language impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Mental disability
- Specific learning disability

- Emotional-behavioral disability
- Multiple disability combination or two or more disabilities
- Deaf-blind
- Visually disabled
- Developmental delay
- Traumatic brain injury
- Autism



# Underachieving as Defined by GT Regulations

between a student's potential ability and demonstrated achievement to a degree that there is an overall diminished ability to achieve at the expected level of ability



### Causes of Underachievement

Lack of motivation to apply themselves in school

Environments that do not nurture their gifts and may even discourage

Disabilities or other learning deficits that mask their giftedness



### Characteristics of Underachievement

Low self-esteem

Consistently negative attitude toward school and learning

Reluctance to take risks or apply one's self

Discomfort with competition

Lack of perseverance

Lack of goaldirected behavior

**Social isolation** 

Weaknesses in skill areas and organization

Disruptiveness in class and resistance to class activities.



# When using Special Considerations it is suggested the district:

- Use a multiple criteria approach
- Discuss the whole child
- Review evidences suggested in the regulations for each area
- Develop a process for using special considerations (Example: Evidence will include Portfolio of Work Samples, Checklists of Behaviors from all the student's teachers, Anecdotal Records from referring teacher or staff)
- Observe student at least 6 weeks year



### All Evidence List

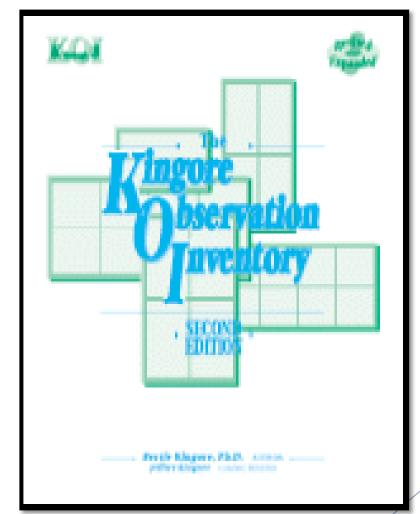
- 1. A collection of evidence from portfolios demonstrating student performance;
- 2. Inventory checklists of behaviors specific to gifted categories;
- 3. Continuous progress data;
- 4. Anecdotal records;
- 5. Peer nominations;
- 6. Formal testing data specific to gifted categories;

- 7. Parent interview or questionnaire;
- 8. Primary review committee recommendation for those entering the fourth grade;
- 9. Self-nomination or petition system;
- 10. Student awards or critiques of performance or products specific to gifted categories; and
- 11. Other valid and reliable documentation;



# Kingore Observation Inventory by Dr. Bertie Kingore

- Observation forms
- Data Analysis forms
- Ideas and strategies and lesson ideas for working with gifted students





#### Color Date \_ The Kingore Observation Inventory (KOI) \_\_\_ Grades K through 3 TEACHER \_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_ ADVANCED LANGUAGE Uses multisyllabic words unassumingly; descriptive Asks questions about words (in print or oral language) Uses similes, metaphors, or analogies; rich imagery Modifies language for less mature children Displays verbal skills when teaching others, handling conflicts, or influencing the behavior of others Expresses similarities and differences Uses the specific language of a discipline ANALYTICAL THINKING Demonstrates complex and abstract thinking Analyzes classroom tasks and instructional techniques Observes intensely; is unusually attentive to details in their environment Takes apart and reassembles ideas, objects, or experiences Analyzes cause and effect, consequences, or alternatives Creates songs, stories, or riddles related to their learning experiences Organizes collections or ideas in unique ways MEANING MOTIVATION Is philosophical; pursues issues atypical of agemates Asks penetrating, intellectual questions; intense need to understand Is curious; innovatively experiments Displays an unexpected depth of knowledge in one or more areas; an "expert" Demonstrates intense task commitment and energy when words, graphics, structures, or

movement

#### The Kingore Observation Inventory (KOI): Grades K through 3

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#### PERSPECTIVE

Interprets another's point of view

Demonstrates complex dimension or perspective in language, art, and problem solving

Creates and interprets more complex shapes, patterns, or graphics than agemates

Demonstrates that directionality is relative to position Adds interesting components to enhance products

#### SENSE OF HUMOR

Says or does something indicating a sense of humor beyond agemates

Catches an adult's subtle or sophisticated humor Uses figurative language for humorous effect Understands and responds to the use of puns and riddles

Develops a humorous idea to the extreme; "flights of fantasy"

#### SENSITIVITY

Exhibits intense concern for human issues
Acts spontaneously to help someone in need
Shows nonverbal awareness of another's needs and feelings
Expresses empathy through words or art
Displays a strong sense of fairness and justice
Expresses high expectations of self and others; high-strung
Senses discord or dissatisfaction
Overreacts at times

#### ACCELERATED LEARNING

Requires minimum repetition for mastery

Increases rate of learning after introduction and exposure

Categorizes by multiple, often less-obvious, attributes

Comprehends symbolic representations, e.g., musical, numerical, alphabetical, mapping

Reads and interprets consecutive passages at an advanced level Demonstrates an unexpected mastery of complex science or

Demonstrates an unexpected mastery of complex science of math concepts

Applies mathematical operations with sophisticated mastery Creates advanced products

Accesses data with ease using an unexpected variety of tools



# GIA Suggested Evidence

- 1. High performance on additional individual or group intellectual assessment;
- 2. Observation of applied advanced reasoning ability; or
- 3. Checklist inventories of behaviors specific to underachieving or disadvantaged gifted learners.



# GIA Checklist of Behaviors/Jot Downs

#### **GENERAL INTELLECTUAL ABILITY JOT DOWN**

Brief description of observed activity:	Date/				
As students show evidence of the following     When recommending students for gifted ser	characteristics in comparison with age peers, j vices, use this identification jot down as a remi				
Sees connections/recognizes patterns, may want to know how what is being taught fits in.	Asks many probing questions, sometimes to the point of driving others up the wall.	Appears to have a deep sense of justice. May correct others when something seems wrong.	Able to work one or more years above others in age group.		
Widely read or likes to read. May prefer to read rather than be with others.	Knows many things that have not been taught.	Has a large vocabulary but may choose when to use it.	Benefits from rapid rate of presentation. May refuse to do work seen as busy work.		
Displays intensity for learning. Preoccupied and hard to move on to new topic or area of study.	Prefers a few close friends with similar intellect to many friends.	Likes to observe before trying new activities. Thinks through ideas before sharing with others.	Has knowledge about things age peers may not be aware of.		
Prefers to work independently with little direction. May be resistant to being leader of a group.	Displays abstract thinking. Requires time to think before responding.	Shows high energy level - physical, intellectual, and psychological.	Appears to have discrepancies between physical, social, and intellectual development.		



# SAA Suggested Evidence

- 1. High performance on an additional individual or group test of academic aptitude;
- 2. Student awards or critiques of performances;
- 3. Off-level testing;
- 4. Portfolio of high academic performances; or
- 5. Student progress data.



## SAA Checklist of Behaviors/Jot-downs

#### SPECIFIC ACADEMIC AREA JOT DOWN

rief description of bserved activity:	Check One: _	Language Arts Social Studies	Dat	е Мо.	/Day	<u>/</u>	
	_	Math	Teacher	School			
A . I . I I		Science	Grade				
. As students show evidence of the following on When recommending students for gifted serv	characteristics in comparis rices, use this identification	on with age peers, jo i jot down as a remin	of their names down in the appropriate box/es der of student performances in this specific a	Icademic are	за.		
Sees connections.	Asks many probing ques	tions.	Shares what he/she they knows which may be seen as answering "too often."	Provide	Provides many written/oral details.		
Is widely read or likes to read about subject area.	Absorbs information quic exposure.	kly from limited	Has a large vocabulary in subject area.		Benefits from rapid rate of presentation in subject area.		
Displays intensity for learning within subject area.	Requires little or no drill	to grasp concepts.	Generates large number of ideas or solutions to problems.		Has knowledge about things age peer may not be aware of.		
Prefers to work independently with little direction.	Displays leadership qual area.	ities within subject	Applies knowledge to unfamiliar situations.	Offers u	nusual or u	inique responses.	
	1		Developed by L. Whaley and M. Evans, The Cen	er for Giffed S	studies West	ern Kenturky University	



# Our Commonwealth

# **Local Norms**

### What are Local Norms?

Local norms allow for within-group comparisons so students are compared not against the student body as a whole but against students who share similar characteristics, such as race or school attended.



### Why might Local Norms be used?

We are having conversations about this guidance.

- Some states guide their districts to use them to ensure access and inclusion of students from underrepresented populations in gifted programs
- Many GT scholars and experts suggest using local norms to identify gifted students as a way to pursue equitable GT representation
- Test norms should reflect the local demographic, not only national norms (important for districts with a greater number of individuals from minority or ethnic groups)



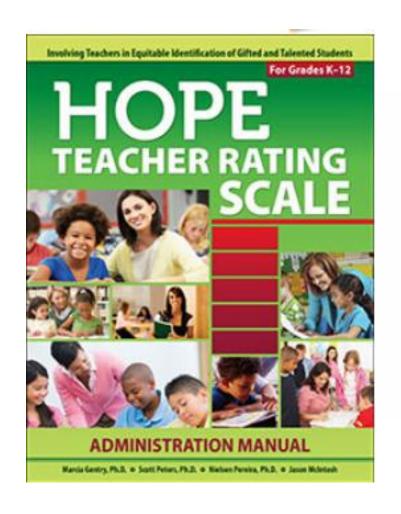
# How do you Calculate of Local Norms?

- Districts can request local norms of a grade level or subgroup from the scoring company
- Hand scoring tool provided by Dr. Gentry or Google doc with same calculation tool
- Norm group should be as large as possible
- For large numbers of subjects a random sample can be used
- At minimum of 100 subjects



# Hand Scoring Tool Screenshot from *HOPE Scale Teacher Rating Scale* – Dr. Marcia Gentry





Raw	Tally	Frequency	Cumulative Frequency	Precentile Rank  1/2(# of persons with the score) + # of persons below the score  total number of persons
36	/	1	25	$98 = \frac{1/2(1) + 24}{25} \times 100$
35		0	24	96
34		0	24	96
33		0	24	$96 = \frac{1/2(0) + 24}{25} \times 100$
32	/	1	24	$94 = \frac{1/2(1) + 23}{25} \times 100$

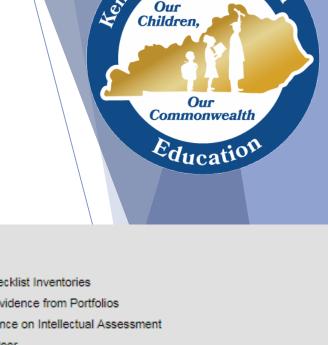
### Local Norms and Identification

- Students must have a minimum of three evidences including the 9<sup>th</sup> stanine from local normed assessment
- Student must score using local norms at the 9<sup>th</sup> stanine or 96<sup>th</sup> percentile using a norm-referenced assessment

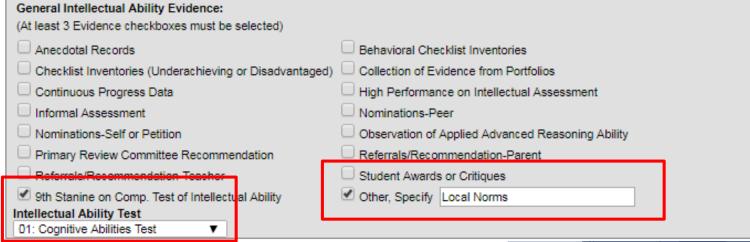


# Infinite Campus Data Entry for Local Norms

- In the "Evidences"
  Section, click the checkbox for 9<sup>th</sup> stanine
- \*Other" and type "Local Norms" on the line. This will count as one evidence.
- A minimum of three evidences must be chosen – select at least two others.



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